

SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS

The Rochester Epidemiology Project

Since 1966, the Rochester Epidemiology Project (REP) has collected health-related data from community members in Olmsted County, Minnesota who have agreed to share their medical records for research. An ongoing collaboration of clinics, hospitals, and other medical facilities in the county, virtually all medical care for Olmsted County residents is provided by these collaborating facilities, which includes all EDs in the county. The REP has been utilized extensively to study population health characteristics and medical care as it is unique in capturing data from the vast majority of the population in this defined geographical region. Only a small minority of the county population (approximately 4% to 5%) does not consent to their medical records being used for research (1, 2).

Olmsted County Population Characteristics

In 2019, Olmsted County had an estimated population of 158,293, of whom 24.4% were under the age of 18. Median household income was \$74,880, with a poverty rate of 7.1%. The racial and ethnic composition of the population was 83.6% White, 6.9% Black or African American, 6.6% Asian, 0.4% American Indian or Alaska Native, 0.1% Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 2.5% two or more races; 5.2% were Hispanic/Latino (3). Generalizability of findings from the REP to other populations has been examined previously by St. Sauver et al. (4). While Olmsted County has a higher proportion of White, non-Latino persons than the United States as a whole, it is comparable to other parts of the Upper Midwest. Due to the inclusion of

the vast majority of persons receiving health care in the county, the REP sample is more racially, ethnically, and socioeconomically diverse than many recruited research samples; additionally, the pediatric population of Olmsted County is substantially more diverse (approximately 30% non-White) than older portions of the local population (4).

REFERENCES IN SUPPLEMENTAL METHODS

1. Melton LJ, III: History of the Rochester Epidemiology Project. *Mayo Clin Proc* 1996; 71:266-274
2. St Sauver JL, Grossardt BR, Yawn BP, et al.: Use of a medical records linkage system to enumerate a dynamic population over time: the Rochester Epidemiology Project. *Am J Epidemiol* 2011; 173:1059-1068
3. U.S. Census Bureau: Population estimates, July 1, 2019 (V2019) – Olmsted County, Minnesota. QuickFacts, accessed 6/17/2020, <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/olmstedcountyminnesota>
4. St Sauver JL, Grossardt BR, Leibson CL, et al.: Generalizability of epidemiological findings and public health decisions: an illustration from the Rochester Epidemiology Project. *Mayo Clin Proc* 2012; 87:151-160